ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: ECDC-US **CUSTOMER NO: 36038**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: M. Seul et al. Group Art Unit: 1639 Serial No. 09/448,420 Examiner: P. Ponnaluri Filed: 11/22/1999 For: Color-Encoding and in-situ Interrogation of Matrix-Coupled Chemical Compounds

Assistant Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450

VIA FAX: (703) 872-9306

OFFICIAL

Response Under Rule 1.116

Dear Sir:

Oct 17 03 02:42p

Please consider the following remarks in connection with the Final Rejection of October 7, 2003. These remarks were not made earlier because Applicants believed that the amendments and remarks in the prior response had placed the application in condition for allowance. The remarks directed to the Boyce et al. reference were not made earlier because the Examiner had not cited this reference before the Final Rejection.

Applicants and the undersigned would like to conduct a telephone interview with the Examiner, once the Examiner has reviewed these remarks. The Examiner's consideration in granting such an interview is requested. The